

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 4, 7 to 23, 25 to 27, 30, 33 to 35 and 38 to 49, amend claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 24, 28, 31, 32, 36 and 37, and add new claims 50 and 51 as follows (a complete listing of the claims is provided below pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121):

Claim 1. (Cancelled).

1 2. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28
2 †, further comprising the step of anchoring the group of filaments ~~filament~~ at or near a
3 proximal end of the core member before winding the group of filaments ~~filament~~ onto the
4 core member.

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 2,
2 wherein the group of filaments ~~filament~~ is wound onto the core member continuously
3 from the proximal end of the core member to a distal end thereof and then back to the
4 proximal end.

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

1 5. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28
2 †, wherein the core member is a mandrel on which the catheter is formed.

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28
2 1, wherein the core member is a substrate that forms an inner lining of the catheter.

Claims 7 to 23. (Cancelled).

1 24. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28
2 22, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament
3 group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group
4 spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 25 to 27. (Cancelled).

1 28. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps
2 of:
3 winding a filament onto a core member while rotating the core member relative to
4 a filament source and passing the filament source in a first direction of axial movement
5 relative to the core member; and
6 reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to
7 wind the filament onto the core member, whereby the filament is continuously wound
8 onto the core member to form a first fibrous layer as the filament source is moved relative

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

9 to the core member from a first axial position to a second axial position and then back to
10 the first axial position;

11 wherein said step of winding a filament comprises winding a group of filaments
12 simultaneously; and

13 ~~The method of making a catheter according to claim 22,~~ further comprising the
14 step of providing a guide assembly having a filament engaging surface, and arranging said
15 guide assembly such that the filament engaging surface lies in a plane which is generally
16 perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core member, whereby the guide assembly
17 causes the filaments within said group of filaments to be positioned side-by-side and
18 packed tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core
19 member.

1 29. (Original) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28, further
2 comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a translation speed
3 of the filament source along the core member to vary a pitch of the group of filaments
4 being wound onto the core member.

Claim 30. (Cancelled).

1 31. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 36
2 30, further comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

3 translation speed of the source of filaments along the core member to vary a pitch of the
4 group of filaments being wound onto the core member.

1 32. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 36
2 30, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament
3 group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group
4 spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 33 to 35. (Cancelled).

1 36. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the step of
2 winding a group of filaments simultaneously onto a core member while rotating the core
3 member relative to a source of said filaments and passing the source of filaments in a first
4 direction of axial movement relative to the core member;

5 ~~The method of making a catheter according to claim 30;~~ further comprising the
6 step of providing a guide assembly having a filament engaging surface, and arranging said
7 guide assembly such that the filament engaging surface lies in a plane which is generally
8 perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core member, whereby the guide assembly
9 causes the filaments within said group of filaments to be positioned side-by-side and
10 packed tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core
11 member.

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

1 37. (Currently Amended) The method of making a catheter according to claim 36
2 30, further comprising the step of reversing a direction of axial movement of the source
3 of filaments relative to the core member while continuing to wind the group of filaments
4 onto the core member, whereby the filaments are continuously wound onto the core
5 member as the source of filaments is moved relative to the core member from a first axial
6 position to a second axial position and then back to the first axial position.

Claims 38 to 49. (Cancelled).

1 50. (New) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps of:
2 anchoring a group of filaments to a core member at a proximal end of the catheter;
3 winding the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member while
4 rotating the core member relative to a filament source and passing the filament source in a
5 first direction of axial movement relative to the core member toward a distal end of the
6 catheter; and
7 reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to
8 wind the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member, whereby the group of
9 filaments are continuously wound onto the core member to form a fibrous layer as the
10 filament source is moved relative to the core member from the proximal end to the distal
11 end and then back to the proximal end.

Docket No. PUR-020
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

- 1 51. (New) The method of making a catheter according to claim 50, further
- 2 comprising the step of passing the group of filaments through a guide assembly to orient
- 3 the group of filaments into a plane which is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis
- 4 of the core member, and causing the filaments to be naturally reoriented and packed
- 5 tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core member.